HCC – Quiz 11 – Chapter 8  
  
1. An item veto allows the governor to do which of the following?   
a. Remove funds for specific items or projects without killing the entire bill   
b. Bypass the legislature’s approval   
c. Compete with other states for federal funds   
d. End a legislative session   
  
2. One of the most persuasive tools the governor has is the   
a. pocket veto.   
b. threat of veto.   
c. item veto.   
d. none of the above.   
  
3. The governor’s authority to reject a proposed law is almost an absolute power because   
a. the governor has control over the legislative agenda.   
b. the presiding officers are in agreement with the governor.   
c. the legislature is seldom in session when the governor issues a veto.   
d. the conference committee has conferred with the governor.   
  
4. Compared to those of other states, the governor of Texas has   
a. stronger executive and legislative powers.   
b. comparable executive and administrative powers.   
c. weaker executive and administrative powers.   
d. No comparative studies have been conducted recently.   
  
5. Once a special session of the legislature has been called, the agenda is determined by the   
a. presiding officers.   
b. legislators.   
c. governor.   
d. governor and the presiding officers.   
  
6. The most distinctive characteristic of the Texas administration is   
a. no one is officially in charge of the administrative apparatus.   
b. that in Texas laws are fragmented into several elective and appointive positions.   
c. an agency director heads each executive department.   
d. that there is no single official in Texas government that bears ultimate responsibility.   
  
7. The system of officials and their employees administering or managing government policies and programs is called   
a. board and commission.   
b. bureaucracy.   
c. elected positions.   
d. tenured positions.   
  
8. Texas has a plural executive, which means that   
a. Texas is part of the three branches of government.   
b. the governor shares executive power with several other independently elected executives and boards.   
c. the institutions of government have a system of checks and balances.   
d. the executive branch of government is modeled after that of the executive branch at the national level.   
  
9. The attorney general is the lawyer for which of the following?   
a. State officials   
b. State board members   
c. State agencies   
d. All of the above   
  
10. Which of the following statements about the Texas attorney general’s advisory opinions is incorrect?   
a. Government officials usually do not follow these opinions as they are not binding.   
b. If an official ignores the opinions, the attorney general will not defend the action in court.   
c. Advisory opinions are technically not legally binding, but they carry great weight in Texas government.   
d. The attorney general has the power to give an opinion that a law or practice does or does not violate other laws or practices of the Texas or U.S. Constitutions.   
  
11. What is the most important constitutional duty for the comptroller of public accounts?   
a. Certifying the financial condition of the state at the close of each fiscal year   
b. Acting as the chief tax collector   
c. Acting as the auditor for each county in addition to the state   
d. Certifying the approximate biennial revenue for the state   
  
12. The revenues from the management of public lands are dedicated to the Permanent School Fund, which benefit   
a. state chartered schools.   
b. community colleges.   
c. public schools.   
d. state colleges and universities.   
  
13. Which of the following is not a responsibility of the Texas commissioner of agriculture?   
a. Checking the accuracy of scales in meat markets.   
b. Administering the Texas Agricultural Finance Authority.   
c. Conducting research, educational, and regulatory activities relating to agriculture.   
d. Coordinating pesticide management policies and programs.   
  
14. Which of the following executive officers is not legally independent of the governor?   
a. Lieutenant governor   
b. Comptroller of public accounts   
c. Commissioner of education   
d. Commissioner of the General Land Office   
  
15. All of the following are appointed by the governor except   
a. members of the Public Safety Commission.   
b. adjutant general of the Texas National Guard and Texas State Guard.   
c. members of the Board of Pardons and Parole.   
d. members of the State Board of Education.   
  
16. A practice where politicians award contracts to their political supporters in the business community is called   
a. a spoils system.   
b. a merit system.   
c. civil service.   
d. a contract spoils.   
  
17. Mike Toomey’s career is an example of   
a. electoral success.   
b. the revolving door.   
c. incumbent advantage.   
d. executive privilege.   
  
18. The Iron Texas Star is composed of a coalition of interests that include all of the following except   
a. the lieutenant governor.   
b. the speaker.   
c. the governor.   
d. the comptroller.   
  
19. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ makes recommendations as to the alteration, termination, or continuation of about 130 state boards, commissions, and agencies.   
a. The Sunset Advisory Commission   
b. An ombudsman   
c. The Legislative Oversight Committee   
d. The Governor’s Accountability Board   
  
20. Which is a violation of open meeting laws in Texas?   
a. Unannounced meetings   
b. Public notice of closed sessions   
c. Meetings opened to the general public when discussing land acquisition   
d. Meetings opened to the general public when discussing litigation matters 